

Appl. No. 09/885,354
Amdt. dated May 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Jan. 26, 2004
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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please **AMEND** the specification as follows:

On page 1, line 1, please substitute the title with the following:

System and Method for Two-Shot Molding of Thermoplastic Materials A
Connector Assembly for an Implantable Medical Device and Process for Making

On page 7, please replace the paragraph at lines 14-21 with the following:

Returning to Figure 1, the exemplary embodiment of core element 2 also includes additional circular receptacles 24 and 26. Each circular receptacle includes an aperture 25 and 27, respectively, to receive the connector pin of a medical electrical lead. For example, during use, a lead connector pin may be inserted within aperture ~~25~~ 27 and further through opening 17. The lead is held in place by a fastening member inserted within opening 16 of set-screw block 10 and tightened on the lead pin or ring as is known in the art.

On page 12, please replace the paragraph at lines 3-18 with the following:

Figure 7 is a side perspective view of circuit member 40b positioned on the surface of core element 2b. This figure illustrates the manner in which finger elements are positioned using the guide members. For example, finger element ~~52b~~ 50b is positioned between guide members 104 and 106, and finger element 42b is positioned between guide members 108 and 110 provided on the bottom surface of core member 2b. The finger elements may be soldered or welded to the conductive components such as the set-screw blocks that are inserted in core member 2b in the manner discussed above. Other circuit elements may also be used to form electrical connections between circuit member 40b and a

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predetermined conductive component. Alternatively, the longer finger elements such a finger element 42b having a flexible elongated end 42c (Figure 5) may be manually shaped into position and welded to form the desired connection as shown in Figure 7. In this example, the end 42c of finger element 42b is shaped along the top surface of core member 2c to electrically couple to set-screw block 12c. This use of longer conductive finger elements makes the assembly process more efficient by eliminating the need for additional circuit components, and by minimizing the number of locations that must be welded or soldered.

On page 16, please replace the paragraph at lines 14-27 with the following:

Figure 11 is a perspective side view of an exemplary connector assembly formed after injection of the second-shot material. The side view of Figure 11 corresponds to the view of core element 2b in Figure 6. Circuit member 40 has been trimmed in the manner discussed above to achieve the necessary isolation between pads. This view further illustrates an additional bore 190 extending through the second thermoplastic material 191, which may be integrally formed by a protrusion provided within the cavity of the bottom portion 150 or top portion 172 of the mold. This type of bore is provided to allow for tightening of the set-screws after a lead is insert into a respective lead receptacle such as receptacle 200 in this instance. This bore will be fitted with a stop member such as a grommet and/or a washer to form a fluid-tight opening that is adapted to receive a tool used during the tightening of the set-screw to the lead pin or ring connector. In one embodiment, other apertures 202a and 202b are provided to allow the connector to be sutured to tissue within the implant cavity. This type of aperture may be formed by a pin that extends between the bottom portion 150 and top portion 172 of the mold assembly.

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**On page 26, please cancel the Abstract and replace it with the new
Abstract appended after page 19 of this response.**